

In the Claims

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method for providing restricted security distribution instructions to a transfer agent in a distribution of securities from a Venture Capitalist to one or more participants comprising the steps of:

receiving distribution information from a Venture Capitalist ("VC") in electronic form, the distribution information including data indicating for each participant in the distribution a name, an identification number, and a number of allocated securities;

importing the distribution information into a database system;

matching participants identified in the distribution information to participant information previously entered in the database system;

associating each respective participant in the distribution information with a contact from which instructions regarding a disposition of the allocated securities to each respective participant can be obtained;

indicating one or more contacts to be contacted to obtain distribution instructions for associated participants;

sorting the one or more contacts in an order of urgency;

contacting the one or more contacts in the order of urgency to obtain the distribution instructions, such that contacts associated with more exigent items are contacted before contacts associated with less exigent items;

storing the distribution instructions received from the one or more contacts in the database system;

1 generating a report including received distribution instructions for the
2 participants in the distribution; and
3 providing the report to a transfer agent.
4

5 24. **(Original)** The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of
6 scrubbing the received information prior to the importing step.
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8 25. **(Original)** The method of claim 23, wherein the step of matching
9 participants comprises the steps of:
10 identifying previously stored records in the database system containing
11 matching identification numbers;
12 indicating differences between data in identified records and the
13 distribution data received from the VC; and
14 indicating participants in the distribution for which no matching previously
15 stored record was found.
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17 26. **(Original)** The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of
18 defining distribution restrictions for a particular participant.
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20 27. **(Original)** The method of claim 23, wherein the step of indicating
21 comprises the step of dynamically indicating the contacts for participants in the
22 distribution and a contact status for the indicated contacts.
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24 28. **(Original)** The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of
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1 upon the selection of an indicated contact indicating all open items for which the
2 contact must be contacted.

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4 29. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 23, wherein the
5 contacting comprises directing a human operator to manually contact the one or
6 more contacts.

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8 30. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 23, further comprising:
9 determining if a block sale of securities is associated with the distribution;
10 locating one or more participants in the distribution who wish to sell at least
11 some of their securities from the distribution; and
12 affording the one or more participants an option to designate a number of
13 their securities to be sold in the block.

14 ~~wherein the storing comprises allowing a representative to manually enter~~
15 ~~the distribution instructions into the database system.~~

16
17 31. **(Original)** The method of claim 23, wherein the step of generating is
18 performed in response to the receipt of distribution instructions for at least one
19 participant.

20
21 32. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 23, further comprising:
22 granting the transfer agent custody of the allocated securities for at least a
23 limited period of time, wherein the allocated securities are associated with
24 corresponding participants, and further wherein the transfer agent is configured to
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1 perform incremental distributions of the securities in accordance with the
2 distribution instructions.

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4 33. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~23~~ 30, further comprising:
5 tracking the number of securities designated by each of the one or more
6 participants to be sold in the block; and
7 calculating an allocation of proceeds to each of the one or more participants
8 based on the number of securities designated by each of the one or more
9 participants to be sold in the block multiplied by an average block sales price per
10 security.

11 ~~wherein the indicating further comprises sorting contacts in an order of~~
12 ~~urgency, such that contacts associated with more exigent items are contacted~~
13 ~~before contacts associated with less exigent items.~~

14
15 34. **(Currently Amended)** A system for generating restricted security
16 distribution instruction reports suitable for use by a transfer agent in a distribution
17 of securities from a Venture Capitalist to one or more participants, the system
18 comprising:

19 at least one computer system associated with a facilitator;
20 a database accessible by at least one client computer system;
21 a database import module configured to import into the database
22 distribution information received from an originating entity in electronic form, the
23 distribution information including data indicating for respective participants in the
24 distribution a name, an identification number, and a number of allocated
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1 securities;

2 a participant matching module configured to match participants identified
3 in the distribution information to participant information previously stored in the
4 database;

5 a participant contact association module configured to associate each
6 participant in the distribution with a contact from which instructions regarding the
7 disposition of the securities allocated to the participant can be obtained;

8 a call queue module configured to indicate contacts to be contacted to
9 obtain distribution instructions for associated participants and sort the contacts in
10 an order of urgency with contacts associated with more exigent items coming
11 before contacts associated with less exigent items;

12 a contact module configured to facilitate contact of the contacts in the order
13 of urgency and procure procurement of the distribution instructions;

14 at least one disposition module configured to store distribution instructions
15 received from the contacts; and

16 a participant instruction report module configured to generate a report
17 including received instructions for the participants, the report suitable for
18 electronic transfer to the transfer agent.

19
20 35. **(Original)** The system of claim 34, further comprising a scrubbing
21 module configured to format the received information and to verify that required
22 data fields are present prior to processing of the received information by the
23 import module.

1 **36. (Original)** The system of claim 34, wherein the participant matching
2 module is configured to:

3 identify previously stored records in the database containing matching
4 identification numbers;

5 indicate differences between data in identified records and the distribution
6 data received from the originating entity; and

7 indicate participants in the distribution for which no matching previously
8 stored record was found.

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10 **37. (Original)** The system of claim 34, wherein the call queue module is
11 configured to dynamically indicate contacts for participants in the distribution and
12 a contact status for the indicated contacts.

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14 **38. (Original)** The system of claim 34, further comprising a contact detail
15 module configured to, upon the selection of an indicated contact, indicate all open
16 items for which the selected contact must be contacted.

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18 **39. (Previously Presented)** The system of claim 34, wherein the contact
19 module is configured to prompt a human operator to contact the contacts and
20 procure the distribution instructions.

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22 **40. (Previously Presented)** The system of claim 34, wherein the
23 disposition module is further configured to allow a human operator to manually
24 enter the distribution instructions procured from the contacts such that the
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1 distribution instructions can be stored.

2
3 41. **(Original)** The system of claim 34, wherein the participant instruction
4 report module is configured to generate a report in response to the receipt of
5 instructions for at least one participant.

6
7 42. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 34, wherein the
8 participant instruction report module is configured to generate incremental reports.

9
10 43. **(Original)** The system of claim 34, wherein the database comprises a
11 plurality of tables including tables forming:

12 an allotment cluster configured to store information related to distribution
13 tasks to be performed by the facilitator;

14 a participant cluster configured to store individual account level reference
15 information;

16 a content cluster configured to store contact reference information; and

17 a project cluster configured to store information related to specific security
18 distribution projects.